

The Cross Roads Times

Quarterly Publication of the Town of Cross Roads, Texas (Denton County)

From the Mayor's Desk

by Steve Smith, Mayor



New Leadership

As the new Mayor of Cross Roads writing my first article for the newsletter, I feel it is important to share the exciting and significant developments that will be occurring in our town over the next several years. Before I mention these items, however, I want to thank Ross Schraeder for the dedication he has shown to our town for many years, not only as Mayor. I know we can count on him to stay involved with the town and continue to be a significant contributor.

Ross approached me earlier this year and discussed his desire not to seek re-election. He asked if I had interest in the Mayoral position and though after serving on both City Council and Planning and Zoning, I had to take some time to mull over the idea. The major factors in my decision to file for the Mayor's seat were the great chemistry of the current council and positive momentum we are beginning to see in the commercial corridor along highway 380.

Our town will see significant changes over the next several years and I feel it is imperative to continue to manage that growth as well as possible. The focus of our efforts should be to uphold the core values the town has always deemed to be important, while guaranteeing long-term significant sales tax revenue. Revenue from new businesses will allow us to provide unique services for our citizens and for visitors to our community. Ultimately our efforts in directing this new growth should be focused on reinforcing our citizens' pride in their city and creating a community that we are proud to call our hometown.

Kim Dickey and Tony Russo have graciously agreed to serve our citizens again as council members for another two years. Council was then left with the decision of who would fill my vacated council seat.

We had an amazing response of interested citizens willing to serve. The council weighed many factors including current makeup of Council and their residency in the town. It was very important to ensure the citizens' interests in all areas were adequately represented. Most importantly the Council wanted someone who had been involved in the town and who would have the experience and background necessary to make wise decisions in these upcoming months. Ultimately, in the July Council meeting Bruce Birdsong was selected to fill the remaining 10-month term.

I extend my congratulations to Bruce and my thanks to all those who expressed an interest to serve our community. My hope is that those same individuals will get involved on one of the many committees, boards, or task forces, which are invaluable to our town.

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Commercial Development

I am pleased to report that as of June 18, 2012 Walmart is officially a property owner within the Town of Cross Roads. They closed on a 28-acre section of land, which sits inside the 78 acres development on the northeast corner of Hwy 380 and FM 424 now known as The Village at Cross Roads. On July 3, 2012, Walmart submitted the necessary paperwork requesting that a building permit be issued.

Once professional reviews are completed the request for a building permit will go before both Planning and Zoning and Council for final approval. While this is further than we have ever been before, I will stop short of declaring it to be a done deal until we see actual construction taking place.

In other commercial development news, a building permit has been issued for a CVS pharmacy to be built on the southeast corner of Hwy 380 and Naylor Road. This project will make sewer access available to businesses along the south side of Hwy 380 from Naylor east to 720. In

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From the Mayor's Desk *(continued)*

our citizen survey a drugstore ranked extremely high as a business the citizens would like to have, only behind grocery and full service restaurants. They plan to begin construction very soon and have the project ready for opening the first half of 2013.

Budget

The budgeting process is underway for 2013 as our new year begins October 1, 2012. Over the next several months the budget committee will plan and ultimately recommend a budget to Council. During that time we will hold a number of workshops, which are always open to the public. This upcoming year will be a challenging one, as we will have the increased demands and strains of construction, yet our projected income will remain generally unchanged. We will not see any of the new sales tax revenue until the building is complete and businesses are operational. The state comptroller will then collect the sales tax, remove the state's 6.25%, and redistribute the 1.75% back to the town.

The town is now, and will continue to be in great financial shape. We started the 2012 fiscal year with cash assets totaling \$757,338 and as of June 30, 2012, our cash assets totaled \$990,551. The town continues to operate with a surplus each month depositing more revenue than we pay out in expenses which has put us in a great financial position overall.

I truly encourage and invite all of our citizens to get involved in some manner within our city. You could start by simply attending a meeting which most interests you. We are always seeking new volunteers who want to help. This town is successful due to the hard work and diligent efforts put forth by its citizens. For this reason I am very proud to represent you as Mayor.

Welcome New Residents

to Cross Roads

Since April issue

Darrell G. Stiffler, 5401 W. Oak Shores Drive

Mark and Amanda Hamilton, 1201 Bridle Ridge Ranch Road

Norman Kenney, 4201 S. Hwy 377

Kernels From Kay

Notes to self:

-Don't assume that every coffee pot automatically shuts off if you pull the carafe out while it is brewing.

-Don't fry bacon while wearing a silk blouse.

-Don't use bleach while wearing anything!

-Don't leave obscure notes in your purse- be more specific than "5:00 on Monday."

-Don't ever say "I'll do it if you can't find anyone else."

Kay Lamb



Community Garden Plans

by Rev. Liz Moen, pastor Oak Grove UMC

Oak Grove United Methodist Church is pleased to announce work toward a Community Garden on land the church owns north of Highway 380 on Oak Grove Lane. We are seeking to make this project a genuinely community-wide effort, and we invite you to participate in the garden project. The answers to some FAQs about community gardening are given below.

- **Why have a community Garden? What purpose does it serve?** Community Gardens offer an opportunity for folks who for one reason or another cannot garden at their homes to grow food for their table or ornamental plants for their pleasure. The opportunity to grow fruits and vegetables can make a big difference in the lives of those participating in the effort. It builds community as people come together to tend their plots and perhaps share their bounty with others. That's the community part.
- **What does a Community Garden look like? How does it work?** Most community gardens have individual plots on which one person or family plants, cares for, and harvests the crops. Some gardens charge a small annual fee, while others simply ask the gardeners to sign agreements that they will take responsibility for

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Cross Roads Community Market by Gale Bacon



When I first heard my grandmother say, "Eat closer to the ground, it's better for you." I almost gagged. You can imagine the mental images those words put into my 12-year-old mind. Many years later when my mother repeated those same words, I could smell and almost taste her fresh tomatoes before they came off the vine! She taught me to appreciate the value of good fresh food and also the work that goes into creating it. There's nothing better than fresh fruits, vegetables and herbs picked at just the right time.

This summer, our town is hosting its first Cross Roads Community Market, in the Town of Cross Roads Park, just north of Town Hall at FM 424 and Fishtrap Road. If you haven't already met our produce vendors, the Blaylocks and the Copp families, then you need to stop by the park any Saturday between 8 am and noon. Both families have been farming in this area and serving our outlying communities for many years.

Mr. Blaylock is very glad to bring his produce "down the street" from Pilot Point for our market. You'll know Jim by his Blalock Melon cap. It's not just a melon to Jim. It's a Caravel or a Sugar Queen.

When Kraig Cobb was a young adult, he helped his father farm. Now he continues the tradition by farming with his own family in Krum. They offer fresh fruits and vegetables for purchase at the market- peaches, plums, beans, peas,

corn, eggplant, squash, onions, peppers, okra, tomatoes, watermelon, and cantaloupe, to name a few. If you're looking for new ways to cook fresh vegetables, they have recipes, too.

Under the shade of the post oak trees, you'll also find arts and crafts vendors. Aaron is a local pyrographer, with very artistic wood-burned pictures and signs. Brigitte, owner of BB's Oyster, has her Texas Tuff plants and herbs. Dwayne and his wife make a variety of wooden signs and small furniture, and Stan has his outdoor, Adirondack-style, garden furniture for sale. Check back often to meet new vendors.

The 2012 summer season ends the last weekend in August. Save some weekend time and gas, and drive to your local market and become a 'locavore'. The market was created for YOU!

For more information, email Gale Bacon at CrossRoadsMarket@CrossRoadsTX.gov to share your experience at the market or to obtain a vendor application. We welcome new participants for this season or the next. The Town of Cross Roads Park committee is very interested in hearing from you. Comments and suggestions are welcome as we plan for future events.

Katherine's Corner

by Katherine Ritchie, Town Secretary

ODDS & ENDS

UNDERSTANDING COMMON CODE VIOLATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURE

In the first installment, I highlighted the **JUNKED VEHICLE** regulations. In the second one I summarized the **PROPERTY MAINTENANCE** regulations. In the third issue I focused on the **PEDDLERS AND SOLICITORS** regulations. In the last issue of Cross Roads Times, I touched on **SWIMMING POOL** regulations. This issue will summarize **TRASH COLLECTION AND LITTERING** regulations. The complete listing of ordinance regulations can be found online at the Cross Roads town website.

<http://www.crossroadstx.gov/documents/code-of-ordinances>



ARTICLE 6.02 TRASH REGULATIONS

(a) The storing or keeping for commercial purposes or resale, of any and all stacks, heaps or piles of refuse, junk, old cars or machinery or parts thereof, garbage, trash, rubbish, ruins, industrial wastes which may harbor reptiles, or rodents, create a fire hazard or result in unsanitary conditions, is hereby declared to be a public nuisance and unlawful.

(b) The use of property for a landfill or landfill or any kind of municipal or experimental disposal of refuse, junk, garbage, tin cans, junk cars, trash, municipal or industrial wastes, is hereby declared to be a public nuisance and unlawful.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person to transport or cause the transportation of garbage, trash or rubbish on the public roads of the town in an uncovered or unenclosed receptacle or vehicle.

ARTICLE 8.07 LITTERING*

Sec. 8.07.001 Prohibited

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person, corporation, organization, association, or any other legal entity to litter or to dump, place, leave, release or deposit trash, rubbish, garbage, metal cans, refuse, scrap material, offal, dead animals or junk, on or upon any property, lot,

Harvey,
Town Mascot



street, alley, sidewalk, branch, creek, ditch, or gutter, or along or upon the sides thereof, or the leaving of carcasses of any dead animal on any property in such a way the same is or becomes an unsanitary condition or a danger to public health.

(b) A person commits an offense if the person allows or permits another to violate the provisions of this section.

(c) For the purposes of this section, trash, rubbish, or garbage includes but is not limited to paper, rags, cartons, wood, excelsior, furniture, rubber, plastics, glass, crockery, tin cans, aluminum cans, metal furniture, sludge, and other discarded material, including solid, liquid, semisolid, or contained gaseous material resulting from industrial, municipal, commercial, mining, and agricultural operations.

Please remember that all trash receptacles are to be retrieved from the street within 24 hours after collection.
Thank you.

COMMUNITY EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS REMINDER

In each issue of this newsletter, I remind the citizens of Cross Roads that if they would like to receive email notifications of town meetings and community activities, they need to email me and place **"Add Me to Your Email Distribution List"** in the subject line. My email address is townsecretary@crossroadstx.gov. I email notices of the meetings, agendas and any public notifications information only in **blind copy** status so that your email address will not be displayed in the address box.

COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, TASKFORCES AND BOARD APPOINTMENTS

The town encourages its citizens to express their thoughts, volunteer their time and talents, and to actively participate in their local government. Citizens interested in volunteering to serve on a committee are encouraged to attend a meeting of their interest, and to make an application for appointment. If you have any questions concerning service to your community, please call me at Town Hall at 940 365-9693.

Kids for Community



Kids at
Elements
Nursery

The Cross Roads Kids and their parents have had a great time this summer! In May we went to Lake Ray Roberts to view the "Ring of Fire" eclipse and we visited with Sara Polard at Elements Nursery. Sara gave us a tour of the new nursery and had a planting project for all of the kids. The highlight of the visit was when the kids got to break open a pumpkin – she then had them dig out the seeds and plant them so they would all be able to grow their own pumpkins for the fall.

In June and July we reserved two dates to watch the Frisco Rough Riders in the Pool Zone. What a fun way to watch the game! It was definitely hot but the kids had a blast watching the game from the pool. And the best part seemed to be when the camera would pan to them occasionally and display them on the big video screen as they danced on the edge of the pool. Judging from the kids' responses, we may make this an annual event!



Kids at Frisco
Rough Riders

What a way to
watch a game!

We would like to sincerely thank everyone for the generous donations to the Denton Human Society throughout the month of June. Thanks to our community we raised funds and donated food and supplies to help support the animals in Denton County.

Upcoming Events:

Denton Water Works

Friday, August 17th

4:00pm – 7:00pm

Come join us at Denton Water Works for a fun afternoon of splashing and staying cool at the water park! Every Friday is BOGO (Buy One Get One Free) day, after 4:00 pm. Tickets for non-residents cost \$13/Adults and \$9/Kids under 48".

Tour of Peterbilt in Denton

September – date TBD

Peterbilt has graciously offered to give us a tour of their facility in Denton in September. We're still waiting on a date, but please send us an email or text if you are interested in attending and we will give the details to everyone during August.

JDRF Movie Night Fundraiser and Walk

Movie Night Saturday, October 6th

Walk Saturday, October 20th

Kieran Hunter from our Kids for Community group will be hosting a movie night fundraiser at the Oak Shores Park with his family on Saturday, October 6th. Plans are still being finalized, but they will include food and fun to benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF). Watch for more details closer to the event. Please contact Suzanne Hunter suz2309@att.net (or 940-453-4984) for more information.

October 20th is the date for the JDRF walk. Please let Kieran and Suzanne know if you would like to join their team on Walk Day. It will be a fun family day with a lot of things to do, tons of free food and even a free "Kieran Can!" t-shirt for those who walk with them.

Please direct all questions and RSVP's to:

Kim Dickey

kim@ntxproperty.com

940-597-4988

Aubrey Area Library

Kathy Ramsey, BAAS; MLS, Library Director

Aubrey Area Library, 226 Countryside Drive, Aubrey TX 76227

940.365.9162 **Library** 940.391.9180 **Cell**

Children
enjoying
Crittman at
the Aubrey
Area Library in
June



Summer Reading Program

Ice Cream Party, August 4, 11 am

Everyone is invited for ice cream

and a carnival.

All readers will be acknowledged and tickets will be drawn for teen and adult prizes.



Community Garden Plans (*continued*)

the plot. If the Oak Grove Garden does decide to assess a fee, I plan to request that a certain percentage of the plots be subsidized for families who cannot afford the fee. We are hoping to have a church plot that will provide fresh produce for local food banks as well.

- **Who will organize this? Who will do the work?** In order for this to truly be a community garden there must be people from the community actively involved and invested in the project. We are currently recruiting folks from the community as well as from Oak Grove UMC to serve on the steering committee. This steering committee will make decisions about the organizational structure and guidelines as well as overseeing the work that will be required to go from bare land to garden. Their tasks will include gathering financial, material, and volunteer support as well as planning and overseeing the work of creating the garden. We will be recruiting scouts and anyone else we can find to do the work. We need people with a variety of gifts and skills to serve on this committee. **The first Steering Committee meeting will be at Oak Grove UMC at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 29.**
- **How can I help?**
 - Serve on the steering committee. Share your knowledge about gardening, fund raising, organizing or simply offer your time and enthusiasm.
 - Volunteer to help prepare the land, beds etc.
 - Offer financial or materials support.
 - Contact Jeanne Mathis (jmathis@lsic.net) or Pastor Liz Moen <revmoen@gmail.com> or call if you are interested in serving in any of these ways. (See contact information below.) I believe this garden can make a difference in the community around us. I hope you will join us in bringing it to fruition.

Contact Information

Rev. Liz Moen, Pastor,
Oak Grove United Methodist Church, 4725 F.M. 720 W., Aubrey, TX 76227
cell: 972-948-5984 email: revmoen@gmail.com

First Texas Homes by Larry Fisher

When making a major decision, such as buying a home for you and your family, you may find yourself facing a flurry of important questions. Will this home meet the needs of my family for years to come? What will happen to my home's value and my neighborhood as time passes? Am I getting fair value for my expenditures? How do I know I'm getting a quality home? Will I be able to obtain financing I can afford? Will the builder allow me to change the floor plan to meet my unique needs? The list goes on and on.

Fortunately, if you are considering a First Texas Home in The Village at Cross Roads, you will work with an expert who will help you find your way to a great home-buying experience. Jennifer Simmons uses her wealth of experience in the home-building industry as she assists you in choosing the perfect home for you and your family. Jennifer began working in the industry as a teenager, handling blueprints and doing other tasks for a builder. For over 16 years Jennifer has been selling new homes to Texas families. In addition to her sales expertise, Jennifer holds an interior design license, which greatly helps her clients as they select colors and textures for their customized First Texas Home.

First Texas Homes is the #2 new home builder in Texas and #12 in the entire United States! Their 25 years of home building experience and long-term relationships with suppliers allows them to offer unparalleled value to their customers. With pricing ranging from \$90 - \$100 per square foot for homes sized from 2700 - 4600 square feet sitting on one acre lots with concrete streets in a premium gated community, First Texas Homes brings a welcome presence to The Village at Cross Roads.

182 Las Colinas Trail

Cross Roads, TX
76227

www.FirstTexasHomes.com

Community Sales
Consultant: Jennifer
Simmons

940-365-5794 office



Jennifer noted that their customers receive, prior to closing, a quality analysis report from an independent inspector that helps assure the buyer of a quality home. In addition, First Texas Homes offers a 10-year home warranty with every purchase of a new home! First Texas Homes offers complete home design customization services supported by their in-house staff of 6 architects. With custom design services, unmatched warranties, a history of quality products, and knowledgeable sales support, is it any wonder that First Texas Homes creates a successful presence in their developments?

Jennifer tells me she currently has 29 building sites available in The Village at Cross Roads with an additional 47 sites to be added shortly. As an incentive for new buyers they will be offering \$15,000 in upgrades and a John Deere mower to new home buyers! Call Jennifer for details, refer your friends and welcome this quality new home builder to our Town.



Appreciation Party for Out-Going Mayor Ross Schraeder



Welcome Party for In-Coming Mayor Steve Smith

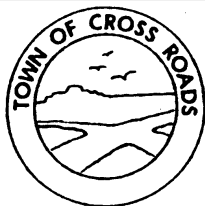
Town of Cross Roads, Texas*Steve Smith, Mayor**Tony Russo, Mayor Pro Tem**Kim Dickey, Council Member**Larry Fisher, Council Member**Wally Kille, Council Member**Bruce Birdsong, Council Member**Katherine Ritchie, Town Administrator**Judy Moudy, Admin. Assist.**Jeanie Burch, Editor***Cross Roads Town Hall**

PHONE: 940-365-9693

FAX: 940-665-6898

www.crossroadstx.gov**TOWN HALL MEETING SCHEDULE****Planning and Zoning** Commission meeting 1st Tuesday of the month**Economic Development** Committee meeting 2nd Monday of the month**Park Board** meeting 2nd Tuesday of the month**Comprehensive Planning** Committee meeting 2nd Wednesday of the month**Road Repair** Committee meeting the Thursday before Council meetingTown Council **Workshop** meeting as needed**Town Council** meeting 3rd Monday of the month

All meetings start at 7:00 pm, or will be posted if different. All meetings are open to the public and held at Town Hall unless specified otherwise on the agendas, which are posted on the front window of Town Hall. Please call Katherine Ritchie at Town Hall if you would like to join a committee to serve your community.

Municipal Court is held on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 9 am.

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